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Cotton's Weekly

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Oil for Battleships

It was not so very long ago that the ruling class of Great Britain considered the tight little islands were immune from attack. Their publicists and politicians boasted that Britain was the workshop of the world. It was confidently assumed that the sons of the old country were dowered with a special faculty of ruling alien peoples. The ships owned by the master class of Britain plowed the distant seas carrying shoddy and dolls, missionaries and booze, traders and soldiers to the lands upon which the ruling class had cast covetous eyes.

When these soldiers had murdered the natives and created another little patch of red on the map, the deities were sung in the English churches to the god of love and the god of war.

When the traders had corrupted the natives and shackled them to the rubber trade, or shut them in compounds in the diamond fields, the politicians boasted of the great growth in world trade of the islands.

When the missionaries taught the naked Africans to clothe themselves in cotton cloth, thus furnishing new markets to the Lancashire cotton kings, the churches issued books showing how Christianity was spreading. It did not matter whether the natives, no longer going naked and having the sun dry the rain that fell on them but going clothed in cotton garments which clung in a moist steam to them after a rain, took tuberculosis and died like flies. That did not enter into their official reports.

Now conditions are changed. The ruling class are in a panic. There is no getting away from this fact. Whether it be the Tory Law, or the Liberal Asquith, or the half-half turncoat Churchill, the cry goes up that Britain is threatened. God who in the days of prosperity and gigantic thievery of the rulers was calmly appropriated as the property of Britain's masters is not now being appealed to as formerly. It is ships that are wanted and guns, and men, and munitions, and the rulers beckon frantically to Canada and to Australia to come help the world plunderers continue their piratical appropriation of revenues produced by the slaves of other countries.

Wherefore rises this great outcry of fear? Why these frantic appeals? Has God gone back on his chosen people?

The riddle is solved in oil.

The power of rule is passing from coal to oil.

Great Britain's dominance did not rest in her power to produce great men, nor in her righteousness, nor in her capacity to rule. Her power rested on coal near the seaboard. Britain arose to might in the beginning of the railroad abundance of coal, easily mined and transported to the water's edge, gave her the power. And she had iron near the coal and these two factors made her great. Coal to smelt the iron to fashion weapons and ships to take the users of weapons to India, Canada, the South Sea Islands, she grabbed the new islands and exploited them like Tyre and Sidon grabbed the trade of the Mediterranean when that was practically the only known large body of water.

Getting the start, she used the revenues of exploitation to create further exploitation and her greatest robbery was the robbery of oil, as a victorious robber band grows great and has power to crush out rival bands of robbers small at the start.

But conditions are changing. The economic base of society is shifting. OIL REPLACES COAL AND BRITAIN HAS NO OIL WELLS.

The British master class realize their coming eclipse and fear. They do not go to their temples and pray. They do not rely on religion, but they frantically endeavor to GRAB OIL WELLS.

Oil is the explanation of the struggle to the death in Mexico. Oil is the explanation of the importance of Venezuela and the Caribbean sea. This is the explanation of the struggle in Columbia. The British ruling class know they have to get oil driven battleships to maintain their international exploitation, or lose out in the race.

In Mexico the Pearson syndicate has been endeavoring to capture the Mexican government by financing revolutions in order that Mexican oil may be always open to British ships. She has lost out. In Columbia Lord Murray of the Pearson syndicate spent large sums of money with the Colombian government to get oil concessions. President Wilson thereupon gave a new interpretation to the Monroe doctrine by declaring that foreign syndicates getting large concessions from South American governments in such a manner as to control the natural resources of such countries would not be allowed by the United States. Lord Murray has returned to England and announced the failure of his schemes.

It is now said that Britain must go back to the smaller type of ships. The superdreadnoughts and even larger vessels are only possible when oil driven. Coal takes up too much bulk and cannot develop the horsepower. Smaller ships mean smaller guns and smaller guns, according to the lesson of the last naval wars, mean defeat.

The British battleships of the Queen Elizabeth type are 27,500 tons, with 15 inch guns, and 25 knots, using exclusively oil fuel. If Britain cannot get oil fuel, her big ships will lie like helpless logs in time of war. The program was to build five ships this year of 30,000 tons. But Lord Murray has lost out in Columbia, owing to the American interference, and the plans have been altered. Now it is announced the five new ships will be coal burning, 25,000 tons, 21.5 knots and with 13.5 inch guns.

Compare this with other nations. The United States government is planning to buy Texas oil wells and pipe the oil to the seaboard for the battleships. Her warships building are of 32,000 tons, and with 14 inch guns. Russia, with oil wells in the Tiflis region, is building ships of the same weight and big guns. Germany and Italy are building 15 inch guns for their ships. Italy can get oil from Austria as long as the triple alliance lasts. Japan is arming with 14 inch guns.

As coal gave Britain dominance and she took, so oil is giving other nations dominance and they will take.

Great Britain has thirteen billions of dollars invested in foreign countries. This brings in an annual revenue of \$650,000,000. This annual tribute does not rest on justice. It rests on the power of big guns.

If Britain cannot put up the big guns, she will have to put up with a loss of her revenue to the ruling class of other nations who can.

A Capitalist Problem

Farmers around Cowansville sending their milk to the city of Montreal, get three and nine-tenths cents net per quart for it. City users pay ten cents a quart.

The middleman step in and take the difference.

Should we, as a Socialist body, begin to agitate against this huge cost of distributing milk? Should we pour forth lamentations as to how the poor consumer is robbed?

We should not, and we do not, not so anyone would notice it.

This tremendous waste in distribution is a problem of capitalism. Let the capitalist class as a whole to effect distribution as cheaply as possible.

Profits depend upon the difference between what the working class can produce and what it costs the working class to live.

The working class will get but a living wage. The rest goes to the masters and their agents.

If, therefore, there is waste in distribution, the cost of living of the workers will be high, and high wages will have to be paid. If the distribution of commodities is simplified so that the cost of distribution is small, the cost of living will be lower, and lower wages will be paid.

And that portion of the workers' product which now is wasted by a costly and inefficient distribution will be added to the profits of the owning class.

Already the capitalist class are taking steps to cut down the cost of distribution. A parcels post is being established to put the farmers in contact with the city buyers.

Express charges from Cowansville to Montreal, fifty-seven miles, for an eight gallon can of milk — thirty-two quarts — is thirty-five cents, over a cent a quart.

With the government carrying the milk at a lower price, the cost of distribution will be lowered, and the farmers will get a better price for their milk. This will benefit the capitalist class as a whole at the expense of that section of the capitalist class which now runs the express companies.

The Farm Capitalized

The farmers are workers. Throughout the Eastern Townships of the Province of Quebec there is hardly a farm-owner who runs his farm with wage slaves without himself working.

There are farm mortgages and rented farms where one person runs and manages the farm and divides up with the capitalist, but the person on the farm does the work.

No doubt a few will wonder why the capitalist class will be benefited if, as stated above, the farmer gets a better price for his dairy product.

The reason is that the farm is on the point of becoming an instrument of capitalist exploitation.

Expanding capitalism needs ever new fields to conquer. It can live only by expanding and converting all society to its own image. Then, when this process is complete, it will fall of its own weight unless the working class rise sooner and abolish it. Profits are so enormous that they must be re-invested, or the rich will choke in their own wealth. War and destruction may waste a little of this wealth, but with working class pressure against war, wars will become fewer.

The capitalists are turning their eyes towards the farm.

If the farmers get less than four cents a quart for their milk, this means that the farm will give but small profits. If the farmers can get seven cents a quart for their milk the farm will be transformed into the capitalist model.

The cheap parcels post is an important factor in this transformation. It is the opening wedge in the capitalization of the farm.

Government Help Capitalist Class

The Borden government has granted ten million dollars of the Dominion funds to aid agriculture. The government has not granted this money to loan to farmers to pay off their mortgages and debts (it is estimated that the farmers of Saskatchewan province alone are paying twelve millions of dollars a year in interest charges), but to aid agricultural colleges and out better and more efficient ways of farming. Efficiency in farming means higher capitalization of the farm with a lower unit cost of production which will make the difference between what a farm slave creates, and what is needed to keep him far greater than at present. Then the ineffectiveness of the farmers will be used to squeeze them out of their ownership. Farms will pass to the hands of capitalists to be consolidated into larger agricultural areas and operated at lesser unit expense through division of labor and machinery.

Sir Wm. C. Macdonald, the tobacco millionaire of Montreal, has spent several millions of dollars in founding the agricultural college of Ste. Anne de Bellevue, near Montreal. This college is continually investigating the cost of farm production and devising ways of greater efficiency.

It has discovered that one good cow will produce more profits than a hundred and ninety-five poor cows.

A good cow will bring its owner ninety dollars per year in milk returns. A poor cow will bring in a little over forty-five dollars. It costs \$45 to keep and operate a cow. Thus the poor cow will give thirty cents profit over cost of labor, etc., while a good cow will give \$45.

Capitalists in the east are already figuring on these statistics. The average herd runs from ten to twenty cattle. These cattle have to have buildings erected for them, hay and ensilage and horsepower to harvest the feed, etc. With 200 high grade cattle, the returns will be \$18,000 a year. On a dairy farm, hogs and poultry can be raised and other sources of revenue obtained.

With 200 cattle, milking machines can be installed, electrical machinery to do the churning to make butter and automatic manure handling machinery.

With intensive cultivation, from two to three acres of land will keep a cow. The average present eastern farm carries one cow for from nine to twelve acres of land.

If a capitalized farm can pay five per cent, which would be \$5,000 upon an investment of \$100,000 (the \$12,000 dairy farm is now the great exception) capital will flow rapidly to agriculture, and the small farmer will be as practically squelched as the small iron foundry has been.

The capitalist class are busily undertaking to cut out the middleman and reduce the cost of living. They are enthusiastically voting government funds to aid the intensification and increase the efficiency of agriculture. They want to oust the small farmer and introduce the typical wage slave form in this division of production.

The Child of Capitalism

Socialism is the child of capitalism.

Socialism comes when capitalism has prepared the way.

Individual industry is not the ground from which springs Socialism. From individual industry and petty production springs capitalism, and from capitalism springs Socialism, and turning production from the small, independent form, to the giant form, conducted by wage workers.

When capitalism has expropriated the small owners and turned them into proletarians, the proletarians unite to capture the machinery of production and distribution through collective, political action.

The aim of Socialism is not to relegate the individual form of production, but the aim is to have the collective working class own the collective means of life.

Collective action, therefore, is necessary before the collective aims of Socialism can be realized.

For this reason we watch with interest the progress of capitalized farming. For we know that the capitalists in industrializing the farm are sounding their own doom.

Ellis—Legalized Killer

Capitalists foment wars and cause men to murder each other by the thousand for the sake of profits. The laws made by the tools of the capitalists say this is right. It is called patriotism. The murderer has no fault found with him, on the contrary, if he has been a very successful murderer and has caused an unusually large number of his fellow creatures (made in the image of God) to bite the dust, he is heralded as a hero, given medals, and a grant of money from the parliament of his country.

Capitalism forces men downward and still downward until their environment of misery and crime forces them to murder one of their fellows.

Capitalism refuses to stand for this. One less worker means so much profits lost to the game of greed. The murderer must be taught a lesson, so that the supply of workers will not run short. This paltry habit of murdering one man at a time must cease—there is no money in it; it is not good business. The fact that a murder can be committed with a club or a brick or an old jackknife does not appeal to the makers of arms. How do the unthinking murderers suppose the armament makers are to live if such crude methods are employed? It will not do. There must be a stop put to it.

Therefore the henchmen of the capitalists have made laws which say that the one who commits one of these unprofitable murders must himself be murdered. Thus the habit will be stamped out, and the job left to those who understand it, and do it in the method most approved of by big business. The man who is driven into bestial or degrading surroundings must put up with them; he must not let his passions rise when he is unable to secure work and sees the wealth he and his kind have created displayed daily before his hungry eyes. He must be docile and calm and contented, and when the price of labor has doctored to the low water mark, he may be given a job. If his criminal tendencies are brought to the surface by his hellish surroundings and he murders a man, he must himself hang. That is the law of the robbing class, and though public sentiment is decidedly against the carrying out of such law, it still stands and is enforced week by week, and day by day.

Judges, sheriffs and police take the unfortunate who has committed unprofitable murder, and he is passed through their hands and sentenced to be hanged. There they wash their hands of the whole affair. Who is to do the job of taking the life away from his fellow creature? The hangman, of course. The law has appointed one of these creatures to carry out its orders, and everyone concerned frees himself from all responsibility of the dirty job.

And it is a dirty job. At present one Arthur Ellis takes pleasure in being able to say he is the Dominion hangman. Recently he came to Montreal to strap a poor unfortunate, and march him to the gallows and draw the bolt that sent him to eternity. This Ellis animal had a few hours to spare and attended a theatre. Taking off his overcoat he pulled a revolver and fired it. The police nabbed him and ran him in. Horrors! Arrest him, a servant of the Dominion government, an ally of the all-powerful capitalist system! Such an idea was preposterous to Ellis. He appeared in the police station in all the magnitude of offended dignity. "The idea of degrading one of my position," he exclaimed. "It is terrible. Some person will suffer for it. The chief would never consent to this preposterous treatment—ridiculous!" However, the police sent him out to the jail where his victim was awaiting him, and kept him there. He was fined \$5 for carrying the weapon and let go on suspended sentence for being drunk.

This is Ellis, the scavenger of the master class. This is the creature whom the capitalists appoint to do their heathenish work. Where did he come from? He is ashamed to tell, but Gwynn Hall's description fits one of his ilk so well that we give it below.

"When God made the coyote, the hyena, the moose, the caribou and the skunk he gave the refuse to Belial, the Lord of greed, and villainess, and told him to take it to hell with the terrible substance. Belial bethought himself to play a joke on God, and, retiring to the slums of Sodom, placed the God-forsaken stuff in the nest of a leoprotic vulture and she hatched therefrom the hangman, which was reared on blood and given a were-wolf soul by Belial. Since then this thing has been the murder-prince by which emperors, kings, nobles and capitalists have ruled the earth and maintained law, order, impartial justice, civilization and society from destruction. The difference between the hangman and the men who appoint him, with apologies to the vultures, is that between a hazzard and a carrion crow. Compared to a hangman, a politician is a violet and a coyote is a lion."

Clerks and even guests were pressed into service in London hotels on January 3rd to secure fuel, because of a general strike of coal-wagon drivers and porters. In Leeds in the recent strike of municipal workers the soft-handed gent, took a hand at rough work to show the strikers how unnecessary they were. These instances are fine. It shows that parasites can really do useful work. When the revolution triumphs it will be no hardship to set lords and financiers to digging sewers and the like.

Father J. S. Belford of Brooklyn, N. Y., has been in Montreal denouncing Socialism to the Knights of Columbus. This is the holy father we understand, who declared from his Brooklyn pulpit that Socialists should be shot like mad dogs. It must make the holy father writhe in spirit to see the steady advance of Socialism in adherents and respect. The poor fellow has our sincerest sympathy.

Capitalist officials who investigated conditions in Kingston penitentiary are now going to investigate conditions at St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary, P. Q. The investigation will be a whitewash. All the commission will do will be to see if the prison officials are as brutal as the capitalist law demands that they be.

Lloyd George's campaign against the landlord in England is proving so popular that the Tories are coming forward with schemes to abolish the land evil. When the people want a thing bad enough they will get it.

Graft at Quebec

A sensation has been sprung in the province of Quebec by the Montreal Daily Mail. The new morning paper of that city. This paper has been in existence but three months.

The paper, or parties backing it, has spent fifteen or twenty thousand dollars to uncover bribery in the Quebec legislature and the Quebec Legislative Council, which is the upper house of the province.

It has been long considered that bribery and corruption was rampant at Quebec. The Daily Mail, to prove it, consulted the Burns Detective Agency which has become internationally known with regard to the McNamee trial and general anti-university activity.

After the plan was hatched, Burns operatives came to Montreal and opened a suite of offices in a downtown building, at a rental of \$1,200 a year. These gentlemen posed as American millionaires of the sports type, interested in getting a scheme called the Montreal Fair Association incorporated by the Quebec House. The charter, as drawn up, would allow the Association to conduct horseracing, to sell alcoholic beverages and to conduct lotteries. The bill was a private one and a most vicious one. It was so much of a bait to the legislative members and legislative councillors upon the private bills committee. It looked good for a great deal of graft to these members.

After opening the offices, room 300 with the three adjoining apartments at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec city, was occupied. Room 300 was the room where the grafters were to be interviewed and bribed, while the adjoining rooms contained witnesses and stenographers. The inevitable telephone was installed.

This simply means that rival factions of the master class are quarrelling over the surplus value robbed from the working class.

If the American Tobacco Trust controls tobacco, raises prices, and extorts large profits, other capitalists native to Germany will not get as much profits as they otherwise would.

Moreover, in Germany, the military bureaucracy is still powerful politically.

The landed noble and the armament maker are among the chief exploiters of the German people. And they control the government.

Hence when tobacco magnates threaten to absorb too much surplus values through raising prices, the government, as agent of the warlords and landlords, plays roughhouse with them.

The common people have nothing to hope from this struggle. Their only hope is the abolition of the parasites as a whole.

The Canadian Commission of Conservation will, at the present session, take up the question of housing and town-planning. Laws will be proposed preventing the individual building as he will on his own property. The individual liberty will be curtailed in the interest of the community. This is good. But if we can plan towns, and have publicly owned waterworks and street railways, and fire service, why cannot we plan houses fit for people to live in, and why cannot we build them publicly and allow the people to live in them without a landlord getting a profit off them?

In capitalist society the workers are the lower class; the capitalists are the upper class—because they are on the workers' backs; if they were not on the workers' backs, they would not be above them.

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\$55 from various Montreal unions was recently forwarded to the strikers' fund of Vancouver. The solidarity of the workers is growing to be such that three thousand millions of territory means nothing to them.

World Wide Notes

Norwegian women have complete suffrage. No tax-paying qualification is necessary. About six hundred thousand women are on the voters' lists. Women high school teachers in Norway receive the same pay as men and this principle is gradually obtaining in government positions. They can act as trustees and guardians. Women were not able to secure any of the above rights before they had the vote, and they can now obtain state appropriations for their institutions, which had been steadily refused.

On January 21 the arrest of two hundred of the leaders of the general strike of railroad men in Portugal was carried out by the government. Warrants for the arrest of four hundred others were issued.

Ten thousand coal porters on the 21st of January went on strike in London for more pay. They want twenty cents a ton for handling coal instead of eighteen.

A general strike of one day was ordered by the St. Petersburg Socialist organizations in commemoration of Bloody Sunday, and the response was good. Bloody Sunday is in commemoration of January 22nd, 1906, when workers, peacefully assembled to present a petition to the czar, were fired upon, and hundreds, including women and children, were killed. The parade along Nevsky Prospect this year by the workers was broken up by police with drawn sabres. Scores were injured.

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg of Germany, belabored the German Socialists in a speech in the Imperial Parliament. He declared the Socialists were a danger to the throne and preachers of republicanism. Worse than that for you, old top, they are preachers of industrial democracy, which means that when they win, every mother's son of you and your class will have to go to work.

Kyriakos Mikhalis, a distinguished English journalist, is in England with the object of appealing to British public opinion for securing liberty and fair play for native papers in Egypt. Recently five daily papers have been suppressed on the order of the Ministry of the Interior. "El Akhbar" was suppressed for a mild criticism of the government. "Al-Lawa" was suppressed because it appointed a new editor without informing the Minister of the Interior. British rule stifles liberty of thought in Egypt. Native opinion of criticism is not allowed. What brutality the English inflict in Egypt is not allowed to be told.

The next congress of the International Trades Union Federation will be held in San Francisco, in 1915. For the first time Australia will send a delegation to this body.

Prior to the war the Bulgarian trade union federation had 9,502 members. During the war only 500 members, mostly women and juveniles, were left in Bulgaria. The membership has now risen to 4,391. The government continues its persecution of this body.

The railwaymen of Great Britain are fighting the conciliation boards. Only "active" railwaymen may be on these boards. The present the British shut out the railwaymen's union officials. Upon a referendum being recently taken, 124,415 of the 200,000 members of the Railwaymen's Federation were in favor of abolishing the boards. 41,000 were in favor of reconstructing them. 16,351 were in favor of having the executive of the federation decide, and 304 were in favor of the present system.

The trades unions of fourteen countries submitting reports to the International Trades Union Federation, show an ownership at the end of 1912 of \$69,000,000. With other countries not reporting (America, Australia and France) trade union funds will total \$100,000,000. How inadequate this ownership is can easily be seen when the wealth of Great Britain alone is estimated around \$75,000,000,000.

The police authorities of Serbia have broken up ten miners' organizations since the war and confiscated the funds. The yearly wage of the Serbian miner is \$60.

Unless people put their heads together and stop the increase of armaments, England will be brought to beggary," is the statement of Ramsay MacDonald, Socialist and Labor M. P.

A strike of 750,000 London workers is predicted for March.

During Christmas week the night shelters of Vienna, Austria, received 79,053 callers. Amileari Cipriani has been elected as a Socialist deputy from Milan, Italy. The capitalist parties united on Enea Prumetti, the candidate. Enea was elected by 10,747 votes as against 5,882 for his rival. The newly elected deputy was banished from Italy some years ago by the reactionary rulers and has since lived in Paris, working on the staff of Humanita, a socialist paper. He makes the fifty-fourth straight Socialist deputy in the Italian Chamber.

The Italian government recently appointed three of the Reform Socialists to the Senate. The three have refused to accept the appointments. These appointments were made in the belief that the reform wing could not support the government because of its imperialistic and war policies.

Five new seats were gained by the Socialists in the municipal elections at Kristiania, Norway. They are now the leading party. The gains were made at the expense of the Conservatives, who lost four seats, and the Independents, who lost one. The council is now composed of three Socialists, three Conservatives, two Radicals and five Independents. The Socialists polled 30,868 votes; the Conservatives 30,079; the Radicals 7,130; and the Independents 4,360. While the Socialists have not secured a clear majority, they will be able to put many of their immediate demands into effect, as the Radicals are pledged to them also.

The Austrian printers have been on strike for two months. Many provincial towns such as Prague have been without their bourgeois dailies. In Prague only two Socialist papers have been published. The printers are demanding an increase in pay. They want \$7.40 per week instead of \$6.72.

Two big British meat firms, the River Plate and Nelsons and Sons, are planning to amalgamate and fight the American beef trust in the British market. The united company will have \$6,000,000 capital. Thus the process of consolidation goes on. Industrial oligarchies are rising within the state. The problem is, not to abolish the trust, but to democratize it and have its benefits shared by all.

A rate war between various steamship lines is on, and transatlantic rates have been cut so much that steerage passengers are being carried in first class quarters of German ships. Now watch the slave markets of this country and the U. S. thronged with jobless slaves from Europe.

President Wilson is now drafting bills to regulate the trusts. He is at the same old game that killed Roosevelt, and Taft politically.

The Working Class Awakening

At our regular meeting held last Sunday, to make a good beginning in the New Year, we formed a Press Committee. The objects of this committee are two fold: first, to spread the gospel of discontent, by showing how the workers are being treated in the neck and secondly, by showing how the capitalist papers pull the wool over the workers eyes, by prating about the prosperity of the country, reciprocity, and Canadian Navy versus \$35,000,000 and other stunts, all tending to blind the worker to the real point in issue, namely, the robbery that is going on right under their noses.

The graft that has been going on, on the National Transcontinental is one of the instances in which the Capitalist overreaches himself and does a little bit of daylight robbery, presumably, because robbing the workers at the point of production becomes too monotonous, owing to its easiness. Now, the Royal Commission (appointed by the bunch of grafters at the Ottawa hog-trough) has discovered that this railroad has cost \$44,000,000 more than it should, and of course, blame it on the Liberal government. We Socialists are wise to their little games: they are only stirring up the dust, so that they can play their little game, and still fool the worker into believing that he is being honestly governed, and that those rogues of Liberals nearly ruined the country.

There is no getting away from the fact that the working class certainly is easy. He is the greatest joke that ever happened. Listen to what Mackenzie and Mann's hired man, Sir Dick McBride, says in the Montreal Star: "B. C. judged by the past year, has a splendid outlook, and may be expected to enjoy continued and increasing prosperity in the future." Now, is that man crazy? No! He is fooling the workers, and mark you, he is not only trying, but he is succeeding remarkably well, because one working pup had the gall to tell me that he would vote for Dick, but he wouldn't vote for that son-of-a-gun, Bowser. What do you think of that? Isn't the working man easy?

Our B. C. oracle goes on further to say that "Conservative economic point of view marked increase in the development of natural products; mining will show an increase in the output, and taken as a whole the prospects for the immediate future are most gratifying in the extreme." That line of hot air might go all right at a Sunday school picnic, but it won't go here. What about the hordes of Asiatics that the B. C. provincial police drove into the mines at Cumberland, and the bunch of scabs that are at present making a grab at the mines of Vancouver Island, surrounded by militia, and thugs? Isn't it hell when there is so much prosperity that it has to be surrounded by bayonets to prevent it flying away.

Let us speak of the wave of prosperity that has struck South Wellington. From time to time we, or at least the coal company, have militia with just one uniform, then with another kind of uniform, and then a mob with scarcely any uniform at all; and in addition to this there is a bunch of good Conservatism that have got to be provided with a policeman's job, or they would steal. I heard an interesting dialogue between a clothier and a bull a short time ago. The bull was in the store buying a tie, and the clothier, knowing who he was serving, showed him a red tie and said, "This is your color, isn't it?" The bull then snorted and said, "No! My color is blue. I'm a Conservative. Don't show me red. I'm tired of hearing so much of this red flag business." (If he was a good Conservative I wonder what a bad one would be like).

Well! Here we are in this little community, one end composed of respectable citizens, the other end composed of the scum of the earth, shooting one another, running blind pigs, gambling, and the police killing one another with coffee pots. A short time ago a bunch of special police raised Cain round the mine manager's house, causing his wife to leave the place. And why did they do it? To create the impression of law and order, strikers, so that they would keep their jobs.

We have here, in full working order, all the tools of the master class, the militia, police and judiciary. The judge who is trying the so-called riot cases is working faithfully for his master. It took just four lines to record what he had to say of J. Angelo (an organizer of the U.M.W. of A.), as an actor in the riots, but it required a column to record all the vile things he had to say of him as a labor organizer. It is the organized effort of the working class that is being tried and not law-breaking. If it isn't, show me why no scab has been arrested for shooting a man at the Extension mine mouth.

The working man is beginning to realize that there is something on his back. He is beginning to realize his position as a slave, and as Jerome K. Jerome said (after visiting England and hearing the useless class call the workers honest British workmen before election time, and low, degraded slaves afterwards) "God help the upper classes when the worker hates them, as they hate him." Believe me, the time is rapidly approaching, when the working class will rise in their might and throw off the chains that bind them. Therefore, let the oppressors prepare for that day, lest they be overwhelmed.

If they cannot read the writing on the wall, they will have to take the consequences; no matter where you look there is unrest. New Zealand is awakening from the chloroform of the Labor Party and realizing that the only hope for the workers is to take the whole hog. Nanaimo has nominated a full Socialist ticket for the municipal elections, and working class representatives are springing up all over the country. If they do nothing else, the time is rapidly approaching, when the working class will rise in their might and throw off the chains that bind them. Therefore, let the oppressors prepare for that day, lest they be overwhelmed.

The newspapers announced that E. N. Lewis, M.P. for West Huron, Ont., would introduce a bill to give votes to women. When Mr. Lewis saw the report, he declared, "I never had any such intention, and have none now, and evidently I have been the victim of some newspaper joker." Opportunity to help the cause of progress knocks at some men's doors, and gets snubbed.

The want of the world is father of human wants that ask for better things. The poor have endeavored to supply their wants and the rich have taken what the poor created; while the feeling of want increased until now it is so strong it cannot be suppressed.—Ex.

Japan is probing a navy scandal. It seems Japanese navy officials have been getting a percentage upon contracts given by the navy to German firms. When men are trained to kill, a little thing like thieving does not bother them.

Xerxes whipped the Hellsport, yet the storm did not cease. Canute commanded the tide to stand still, but it crept steadily on. Mohammed called for the mountain to come to him, but it did not move. They who today imagine they can stay the rising aspiration of the people are one with the olden fools.—Ex.

What ever we have thought about it, there can be no wealth except commonwealth. All you may individually acquire or save is but spoil and will not protect you from spoilage or misfortune. No man is rich or can be rich until all who live are enriched through possession of what they create even as they are wise through possession of what wisdom of the ages has accumulated.—Ex.

Victor and victims. Master and slaves. Superabundance and penury. This has been the order of human life. Man, the greatest creature, has from his very greatness of desire and power made the most stupendous failure, the most unendurable misery of any that is. He must rise above himself until he shall have reached his true and full altitude.—Ex.

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Socialism in Words of one Syllable

By Edwin W. Wheat.

(What I shall say here will be said to those who work and are poor, not to those who loaf and are rich.)

You work for some one—a boss—eight, ten or twelve hours a day. So long as you help him to get rich—to get more and more wealth—he lets you work for him, and you have a "job." But just as soon as he finds that you can not help him to get rich, he fires you, or "lays you off," and you have no job.

Now, this means that when you work for a boss, you work a part of each day for what you get in the form of "pay," and the rest of the day you work for what you do not get—for what the boss keeps and adds to his wealth. That is, when you have made (say) ten cents' worth of goods, or when your work has made the goods worth ten cents more than they were worth in the first place, you get five cents and the boss keeps five cents of the wealth that you (not he) have made. Or, what is the same thing, you work till noon for your own food and clothes and rent and coal, and the rest of the day you work for your boss so that he will not have to work at all! Is that plain?

Now, if you and I and all who work in all parts of this land and of all lands get but five cents for each ten cents that we added to the worth of goods that we make or wrap or buy or sell or ship for the boss while we work for him, what is to be the end of this state of things? We who make the goods can buy but five cents' worth out of each ten cents' worth that we make: then what is to be done with the half that we can not buy? They must be sold, for the boss can not use them all. Who is to buy them? For in all lands the same thing is true, and twice as much must be sold as can be bought back by those who have made the goods.

My friend, there is a way in which the goods can all be sold—a way in which you and I and all who work in all lands can buy back and have for our own use all the goods that are made, all the coal that is mined, all the wheat that is raised, all the fruit that is grown. No more will fruit that cannot be sold be left to rot on the grounds, or be dumped in the sea; no more will those who make shoes and clothes freeze for want of the things they have made; no more will those who mine the coal have no fires with which to keep warm.

You ask how can all these good things come to pass. Here is how—it is just like A.B.C. You and I and all who work must get ten cents (not five) for each ten cents that our work adds to the world's wealth.

To be sure, the boss would miss the five cents that he now steals from each of us, but he would have the same chance that you and I would have to go to work and get ten cents for each ten cents' worth of wealth that he would make. That would be fair for all, would it not?

But so long as your boss and mine own the mines, the mills, the shops, the roads of steel, the ships that cross the seas, we cannot get the whole ten cents, for they will close down the works (which, by the way, we work who have built; not they who lost), and we will be half of what we make.

To be sure, the boss would miss the five cents that he now steals from each of us, but he would have the same chance that you and I would have to go to work and get ten cents for each ten cents' worth of wealth that he would make. That would be fair for all, would it not?

Yes, they own the works which we have built and must use if we would live? And that is how they who loaf can and do rob us of half of what we make.

Then what is left for us to do? Once more it is like A.B.C. We who must vote to own the mines that we have dug; we must vote to own the farms that we have cleared of trees and stones and have tilled; we must vote to own the mills and shops that we have built with our hands and brains; we must vote to own the roads of steel which we have laid, and the great ships which we have built and whose fires we feed with coal that loads of goods that we have made. And when we own all these, we can use them for the good of all who work with hand or brain.

Yet one thing more we must do: We must bear the light, the truth, to those who work for the boss, who live near us; to those in all lands who work and are poor, and know not why they are poor. Then will they vote with us, and for their class; and in turn they, too, will bear the light to those who yet are in the dark. There is a great work to be done, and you and I must each do our part!

Dear Comrade—I see in your issue of 8th inst. under caption, "Social Democrats Help the Strikers." Victoria Local is given credit for contributing \$1.00 to the legal defence fund.

Allow me to state that Victoria Local's contribution to this fund was \$30.00. The Local by means of a dance raised also \$25.00 for the Christmas fund for the children of the striking miners. Yours fraternally Geo. E. Winkler, Fin-Secy. Local No. 9, Victoria, B.C.

Owing to unstable government in Mexico, many companies in Mexico are unable to pay dividends to the foreign labor skinner. We may now expect the lamentations of the international capitalist thieves over Mexico to turn to foreign intervention. When dividends cease, the unemployed butchers are set in motion.

Parker Williams, Socialist member of the B.C. Legislature, brought up the horrible conditions in the jail where the miners are incarcerated. Premier McBride airily replied to refer the details to the attorney-general. The B.C. circumlocution office for the shelving of questions with regard to the working class is in fine working order.

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The Workers' Conditions

By Eugene Debs.

Every cog in every wheel that revolves everywhere has been made by the working class, and is set and kept in operation by the working class, and if the working class can make and operate this marvelous wealth-producing machinery, they can also develop the intelligence to make themselves the masters of this machinery (applause), and operate it not to turn out millionaires, but to produce wealth in abundance for themselves.

You cannot afford to be contented with your lot; you have a brain develop and a manhood to sustain. You ought to have some aspiration to be free.

Suppose you do have a job, and that you can get enough to eat and clothes enough to cover your body, and a place to sleep; you but exist upon the animal plane; your very life is suspended by a slender thread; you do not know what hour a machine may be invented to displace you, or you may offend your economic master, and your job is gone. You are as much subject to the command of your work all day; you go to your lodging at night, tired; you throw your exhausted body upon a bed of straw to recuperate enough to go back to the factory and repeat the same dull operation the next day, and the next, and so on and on to the dreary end; and in some respects you are not so well off as the chattel slave. He had no fear of losing his job; he was not blacklisted; he had food and clothing and shelter; and now and then, seized with a desire of freedom, he tried to run away from his master. You do not try to run away from yours. He doesn't have to hire a policeman to keep an eye on you. When you run, it is in the opposite direction, when the bell rings or the whistle blows.

You are as much subject to the command of the capitalist as if you were his property under the law. You have got to go to his factory because you have got to work; he is the master of your job, and you cannot work without his consent, and he only gives this consent on condition that you surrender to him all you produce except what is necessary to keep you in running order.

The machine you work with has to be oiled; you have to be fed; the wage is your lubricant; it keeps you in working order, and so you can toil and sweat and groan and reproduce yourself in the form of labor power, and then you pass away like a silk worm that spins its task and dies.

That is your lot in the capitalist system and you have no right to aspire to rise above the dead level of wage-slavery.

It is true that one in ten thousand may escape from his class and become a millionaire; he is the rare exception that proves the rule. The wage-workers remain in the working class, and they never can become anything else in the capitalist system.

They produce and perish, and their exploited bones mingled with the dust.

Every few years there is a panic, industrial paralysis, and hundreds of thousands of workers are flung into the streets; no work, no wages; and so they throng the highways in search of employment that cannot be found; they become vagrants, tramps, outcasts, criminals.

It is in this way that the human being degenerates, and that crime graduates in the capitalist system, all the way from petty larceny to homicide.

The working millions who produce the wealth have little or nothing to show for it. There is widespread ignorance among them; they are degraded, and their crime graduates in the capitalist system, all the way from petty larceny to homicide.

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Letterheads, on 16lb Bond, a fine light sheet	\$2.60	\$3.00
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Statements, fine stock	\$1.80	\$2.90
Note Heads, very best stock	\$1.50	\$2.40
Business Cards, a specialty. We have them in all sizes and colors. We can give you the average size, 2x3 1/2, for	\$1.40	\$2.10
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We have special facilities for printing Booklets, By-laws, Folders, or any such jobs used by the average business house.

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Cotton's Co-operative Publishing Co., Inc. Cowansville, P.Q.

SOCIALIST DIRECTORY

DOMINION Executive Committee, Social Democratic Party of Canada meets every first and third Monday at 55 King St. East. H. Martin, Sec., 61 Weber St. East, Berlin, Ont.—285.

ONTARIO Provincial Executive Committee, S.D.P., meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in each month, 8.15 p.m., Labor Temple, 167 Church St., Toronto. Secretary, P.C. Young, 82 Wrexeter Avenue.—270.

MANITOBA Executive Committee S.D.P. of C., meets every second and fourth Monday night at Headquarters Hall, 213 Jarvis Ave. For information and literature write to Prof. Sec., J. Penner, Box 1682 Winnipeg, Man.—264.

BERLIN LOCAL No. 4, S. D. P. of C., meets every Sunday; business every first Sunday night at 8 p.m., at 55 King St. East. Secretary, 140 Weber St. East, Berlin, Ont.—263.

BRITISH COLUMBIA Executive S. D. P. of C., meets in office 304, Labor Temple, Vancouver, on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month, at 2 p.m. General business meeting on third Sunday, E. Winch, Prov. Sec., Jubilee Station P.O., Vancouver, B.C.—270.

ALBERTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE S. D. P. of C., meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Moose Hall, Fraser Ave., Edmonton; Comrades desiring assistance in organizing locals please write Sec. C. Spencer, 55 Clara Street, Edmonton, Alta.—208.

HAMILTON LOCAL No. 61, S. D. P. of C., meets every 2nd and 4th Friday evening of the month in Swales Hall (cor. Barton and Kinrade) at 7.45 o'clock. This is an invitation to attend. J. Alexander, Sec., 41 Fraser Ave.—274.

LIBERTY Co-operative Club, P.Q., 31 Buttes Ave., Point St. Charles, Propaganda meeting every Sunday 3 p.m. Economic and social problems every Wednesday 8 p.m. Co-operative club every Friday 8 p.m. Woman Club every Thursday 3 p.m.—272.

LONDON Local No. 44, S.D.P. of C. Meets every Sunday at 303 Dundas St. (rear of Ford Motor Co.) at 3 p.m. The Clarion call goes out to every Rebel in London to come along and hasten the advent of the Social Revolution. Godfrey E. Heathcote, Sec., 87 Smith St.—284.

LOCAL VANCOUVER No. 12, meets every Tuesday 8 p.m. for business and propaganda in Hamilton Hall corner of Hamilton and Dunsmuir Streets. Public meeting every Sunday day at 8 p.m., in Dominion Theatre, Granville St. Sam Atkinson, organizer, 301 Dominion Bldg., Vancouver, B.C.—265.

NANAIMO LOCAL No. 11, S. D. P. of C. Business meeting, Tuesdays, at 7.30 p.m. Propaganda meeting, Sundays at 7.30 p.m., at Wharf Street Hall, William Watson, Sec., Box 120, Nanaimo, B.C.—256.

NUMMOLA Finnish Local No. 6, S.D.P. of C. Post Office address, S.S. Osoroto, Nummola, Sask.—262.

PORT ARTHUR Local S.D.P., meets in Labor Temple, Bay St., 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 8 p.m., for business, and 1st and 3rd Wednesdays to discuss matters of interest to every worker. Workers unite and run Port Arthur for the benefit of the workers. Herbert Barker, 28 Rutland St., Sec.—352.

SOUTH PORCUPINE Local No. 32, S.D.P. of C., holds business and propaganda meetings every Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Miner's Union Hall, South Porcupine. Tom Meyers, Sec., Box 521.—252.

COTTON'S WEEKLY is published in the interests of Socialism by Cotton's Co-operative Publishing Co., Inc., Cowansville, P.Q. W. U. Cotton, Pres., Roy Winn, Sec.—Treas.

The coming social revolution, peaceful or otherwise, as the ruling class may determine, will be fought around the machine; it will have the machine for its storm centre. The question is, not shall we put all taxes on land but shall the "fair-like" powers of modern production enrich all society or only a few of its parasitic members? Its battle cry will be—the ownership by those who produce of the means and machinery of social production. Only by such a change shall we reach a social order where "the slave shall cease, and the master of slaves shall cease."—Arthur M. Lewis, in the Ten Blind Leaders of the Blind.

Vancouver Island Defence Fund

Cotton's Weekly has received the following appeal from the Defence Committee of the Vancouver Island striking miners. A good plan for the comrades would be to paste the appeal on a piece of paper, and tackle Socialists and union men for contributions, sending them forward to the Secretary of the Defence Fund.

FELLOW WORKERS:—

We, as brothers of the two hundred miners at present in jail awaiting trial on Vancouver Island, at this time appeal to you members of the working class for moral and financial help, that we may free from persecution and the brand of criminality men whose chief offense is their prominence and activity in the labor movement on this portion of the Pacific Coast.

The miners, in their dealings as individuals with the corporations in the past, have realized their utter helplessness. Time and again explosions occur with the loss of human life. The mining laws provide for the appointment of a Gas Committee by the men. This committee on examining the mine and reporting gas, was discharged. The Government, in lining up with the mine owners, refused to enforce the laws. They are therefore the violators of their own laws.

The men were thus forced to organize, and on the last of May last the mine workers of this Island came out for recognition of their union.

The governments, Dominion and Provincial, in their eagerness for industrial expansion (profits for the master class), encourage a constant stream of immigration from Oriental countries. With the aid of this reserve army of labor, whose wants are few compared with those of white men and the enactment of

drastic criminal laws, which are intended to render the workers powerless during a strike, all the forces of the State are at the disposal of the capitalists involved.

Today the militia are encamped in our streets, and bodies of them with fixed bayonet patrol them, and act as a shield to hundreds of special police who are here to guard strike-breakers.

The jails are crowded with our most active workers. With the exception of a few, bail has been refused. Among the men in prison are many earnest and active workers, who are eligible for provincial and municipal office. Also J. Place, M.P.P., the working class representative in the Provincial Parliament. The workers of this district have attained the most advanced political position of any of the Dominion. In the event of these men being convicted, they are deprived of all political rights for five years.

FELLOW WORKERS:—

In this life and death struggle with the Master Class, help us to keep the Banner of Labor flying triumphant over what we have already attained. It is our turn today; it may be yours tomorrow. In the name of the solidarity of the working class, help is urgently needed at this time. Do all you can, and aid us to hurl those from place and power who, in their greed would force us to the standard of Orientals, or to become homeless tramps.

Forward all monies to Defense Committee, B.C. Moore, Secretary, Box 830, Nanaimo, B.C. Donations will be acknowledged in Western Canada, Cotton's Weekly, Appeal to Reason, and other Labor papers.

Finnish Local No. 20, S.D.P. of C., Webster's Corners, B. C.	23.60
Finnish Local, Kewatin, Minn., U.S.	11.65
Frank McKee and Axel T. Johnson, Main, Sask.	2.00
Green Valley Socialist Party, Rocky Mountain House, Alta.	3.20
Finnish Socialist Local, Port Arthur, Ont.	23.40
Local No. 9, S.D.P., Victoria	30.00
Finnish Socialist Local, Mullian, Idaho, U.S.A.	3.60
C. G. Johnson, Carmi, B.C.	1.00
S. S. Osasto No. 1, Cook Co., Chicago, Ill.	10.90
Local No. 21, S. D. P., Edmonton, Alta.	6.50
Finnish Ex. Com., S. D. P. of C., Regina, Com's Cronk and McCombs, Silico, Alta.	3.00
John Heaton, S.P.C. Local, Kenora Milwaukee, Wis., Finnish Local, per Arvo Soro	3.50
Vancouver, B.C., per B.C. Association	7.50
Finnish Local, Port Arthur, Erick Korkala	2.40
Per A. G. Godfrey, South Wellington B. C.	22.00
Finnish Local, Mond, Ont.	12.65
T. C. Wood, per Western Canada, Finnish Socialist Local, Toimi, Lake Co., Minn.	3.00
United Bro. Carpenters and Joiners, Nelson, B.C.	10.00
S. S. Osasto, Garson Mine, Sudbury, Ont.	7.65
Local 134, Sheet Metal Workers, Victoria, B.C.	10.00
S. S. Osasto, Cobalt, Ont.	33.00
Greenwood Union, W.F.M.	5.00
Int. Union No. 510, Steam Engineers, Prince Rupert	5.00
Miners, Cardiff, Alta., per A. Fleming	57.80
Finnish Local, Eekville, Alta., C. S. Bandall	11.00
Local 495, Journeymen Plumber, New Westminster	10.00
Local, Union 138, Vancouver, Paint-	

Total\$3418.10

Guelph Local Protests

To The Minister of Justice, Ottawa, Ont. Sir—Whereas it has been drawn to our attention that two hundred miners have been imprisoned on Vancouver Island on charges that we believe to be unjust.

And whereas, we believe that all workers should be guaranteed the right to organize for the purpose of bettering the conditions under which they labor.

And whereas, we believe that the only crime that has been committed by our fellow-workers on Vancouver Island has been organization for the purpose of having the mining laws of B.C. fulfilled, viz., the right to appoint a Gas Inspector Committee.

We, the members of Guelph Local, Social Democratic Party of Canada, do hereby take this method of protesting against the tyranny of the powers that be in Vancouver, by demanding, as electors of the Dominion of Canada, that the Government, take immediate steps to investigate the case, and see that our fellow-workers get fair play. Yours for Justice.—Committee.

P.S.—Sir,—We further ask you to peruse carefully the following statistics taken from the report of the Canadian Conservation Commission 1911, which speak eloquently of the conditions pertaining to the Canadian coal mining industry, showing it to be more hazardous here than in any other country in the civilized world.

"From 1898 to 1908 the following were the average annual fatality rates in various countries from coal mine accidents, per one thousand employed: Belgium, 1.03; Great Britain, 1.3; France, 1.65; Prussia, 2.13; United States, 3.5; Canada, 5.

Smith Falls, Ont., Also

Times are very hard here. Hundreds of men are walking around looking for a job and practically nothing to do. And to make things worse, the capitalist class have cut wages for those still holding jobs. I was working in a local foundry here, but got laid off some months ago. Since then I have been knocking around from one job to another, and a large share of the time I have been idle. Have a job now at almost starvation wages. The working class are waking up. All the labor candidates were elected—three aldermen, the reeve, and two on the school board." A slave, Smith Falls, Ont.

The workers united are the biggest thing on earth, and when they unitedly ask for Socialism, it will be the biggest thing on earth.

You can hasten the coming revolution, or you can retard it, but you cannot prevent it.

Socialism is the essence of sweet reasonableness.

American Notes

Senator Ashurst of Arizona declares he has received 4,000 telegrams demanding investigation of the Calumet, Mich., outrages against the striking miners.

Tom Lally has been elected Socialist commissioner of Salem, Mass.

A Socialist has been elected Councilman of Republic, Wash.

Iowa this year elects her state officers, 5 supreme court judges, 57 district judges, 21 state senators, 99 state representatives, 8 United States senators, 11 Congressmen, and most of their county officials. Socialists are swinging into the fight and expect to win many offices.

The case of Wheatland, Cal., hop pickers, who have been shot up for striking, arrested, thrown into jail and held incommunicado, is now attracting attention. The prisoners have been beaten and tortured by Burns detectives. They are 100,000 homeless men and women in New York city.

The wives and children of the striking Trinidad miners endeavored to parade the other day. The militia used their rifles as clubs upon the defenceless women and children. Governor Ammons, instead of investigating the outrages, is using the convicts to mine coal in the strikebound mines, ostensibly to furnish the state institutions such as asylums and jail with coal. This, however, is considered to be merely a pretence for using the convicts to help the mineowners.

John W. Reid, who for several years posed as a Socialist and I.W.W. in Akron, Ohio, has now taken an affidavit to the effect that he was all the time paid spy of the Corporations Auxiliary Company, the Diamond Rubber Company, and the B.L. Goodrich Company. He implicates other officials of the two local organizations and declares they were paid to break the strike of the rubber workers from within.

The Western Federation of Miners have adopted a resolution advocating the public ownership and democratic management of all public utilities.

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor has decided to assess each member of the Federation two cents a week for ten weeks. This is estimated to be a fund of \$410,000, with which to aid the copper strikers of Michigan. It takes \$18,000 a week to relieve the strikers.

J. Stitt Wilson, former Socialist Mayor of Berkeley, Cal., predicted the breakup of the Democratic party as a result of President Wilson's surrender to big business.

Five thousand employees of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company struck because two employees had been discharged. The two men were reinstated in their slave jobs.

Bishop Lawrence of Massachusetts, speaking before the House Committee on Naval Affairs, asserted that "Christians were the best fighters, that 'in the long run they always beat out the heathen' and that 'the navy is not a good fighting navy.' The good bishop at the time was urging an increase in the number of navy chaplains, and many of his brethren of the cloth need jobs. So the good bishop puts forth the idea that the navy ministers should have more chaplains to make them more effective murderers.

Monopoly

Sydney "Daily Telegraph" insinuated recently that there was not brains enough in the ranks of workers to run any business concern.

Oh yes, to the plutocrat-owned press. It gives a man the blues.

To read such wishy-washy stuff. They dole to us as news:

When we wage-slaves seem quite content. "And never think of striking."

O they put us on the back. "You see that side to their liking."

To labor is so dignified. "To strike is utter madness."

It brings such loss unto the state. "And causes so much sadness."

But when the trodden worm doth turn. "He's broke the law," the press cries out.

"And we must persecute."

And now, although Fat owns the earth. "And all above, or under."

"You Socialists," the plutocrat press says. "Are making one big blunder."

You cannot run the wheels of trade. Without our guiding hands.

To plow and sow and reap you need. Our brains as well as lands."

We know they've "cornered" all things good. And bound us in their chains.

And bound us in their chains. But now we learn, vide daily press.

Now, when the last dread trump shall sound. I wonder if that chosen few.

Will "corner" aught in Hell? J. G. May, in International Socialist.

Eagle Hill Social

Local Eagle Hill, Alberta, No. 23, S.D.P. of C., held a very successful entertainment, being a concert, box social and dance, in the Vale View school, on Friday, Jan. 16th. The Waterside School which is considerably nearer had been the previously arranged rendezvous but the Trustees informed the comrades that they (Socialists) could not have it, just five days ahead. The other school was secured, the trustees being very generous, also lending us an organ from one of their houses. The time for advertising was very limited, but an excellent crowd turned up. A program was given by comrades and other friends, including a long play, some fine revolutionary songs and recitations and an excellent talk on Woman Suffrage by a lady comrade. The boxes, in numbers, were then sold by auction, fetching an average price \$1.81 each, and after supper the benches were cleared and nearly all present tripped the light fantastic toe to the strains of the violins and organ, till they closed with "Home, sweet Home" just before 5 o'clock. The proceeds amounted to about \$41.00, leaving \$25.00 to the good after all expenses were paid. \$5.00 goes to the Vancouver Island Defence Fund and the balance to start a prize list for a picnic in the summer, to be followed by a big Barn dance, on which date we expect a big crowd and hope to have a good Socialist speaker on hand.

Wilfred Cribble in N. B.

Wilfred Cribble, S. P. C. organizer is expected in New Brunswick during the month of February. The arrangements for his tour in this province are in the hands of F. Hyatt, Prov. Sec., 104 Moore St., St. John, N.B.

Why Socialists Oppose Charity

Well now, why do you oppose it? The reason why Socialists oppose charity is that WE are the poor.

WE are the working class. WE are of the army which creates all the world's wealth.

WE are the hand workers, the brain workers, the machine tenders of the world.

This thing you call private charity is offered to OUR people—the strikers and wounded in the industrial warfare of the day.

We hold no scorn, no resentment, no ill will toward those who in mere ignorant compassion strive to empty the ocean of human misery with the teaspoon of charity.

We commend their spirit while we pity their lack of intelligence.

Our resentment is not at charity itself—it is against the industrial system which makes charity necessary.

It is against the wage system, which could not exist were it not able to keep an army of unemployed ALWAYS hungry, ALWAYS willing to step in and beat back the aspiring workers in the struggle for better conditions, with its hunger cry of "Give us work at ANY wage—we MUST work!"

Even the charity of the master class is only plain BUSINESS—poverty and hunger, are their ALLIES in their war against human solidarity in their battle for PROFITS. They sincerely fight poverty and hunger ONLY when these grim allies become so strong that they threaten to RAISE HELL WITH THE PROFIT SYSTEM.

We don't want charity. We don't want anything resembling charity. All the useful brains in the world are the brains of workers.

All the useful hands in the world are the hands of workers.

When the CAPITALIST, in his struggle for rent, interest and profit, brings down the industrial house of cards in a wreck such as we have had times, or panic, we don't want soup, and kind words, and pennies tossed to us in the snow.

We want THE INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM. We want to reorganize things so that human labor will be applied to the making of useful, socially valuable goods, instead of creating PROFITS.

We don't want charity. We don't want even what you call justice.

We want OPPORTUNITY. We want your tricksters and traders to stand aside, and LET THE WORKERS FEED THE WORLD.

B. C. Executive S. D. P.

Report of the B. C. Executive held on Jan. 15th.

Comrades present: Mrs. Edwards, Kudarko, Lehto, Prior, Rogerson, Scott, Scullis, Treas., and Secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

General correspondence from local South Wellington, Nanaimo, Victoria. Received and filed.

Letters and reports written, 30.

Organization Committee Report.

Correspondence from Locals, South Wellington, Nanaimo, Chase River, and organizer, (Filed).

Quarterly Reports from Locals, 14, 33, 34.

Organizer reported having worked at Nanaimo during their Municipal Campaign. A full ticket was nominated, none elected but a great deal of effective organization and propaganda work accomplished.

Chase River reported two comrades (one English, one Finnish) elected as School Trustees.

Burnaby Local reported one comrade nominated for School Trustee. Picked 402 votes.

The Finnish comrades offered the free use of their small hall for weekly Sunday meetings and offered to do any work required subject to English comrades undertaking to provide teachers, etc.

Accepted with thanks.

Two comrades were appointed to visit Vancouver Local No. 12 and place before them matters affecting the good of the movement.

and to report result of same at next meeting.

Financial Report Receipts \$69.60.

Warrants authorized, \$73.20.

Motion to adjourn, adopted.—The Executive.

Inverness Slaves Hard Hit

I have watched your valuable, hand-ditting paper with intense interest for some communication from Inverness, but failed to see any in the few issues that are delivered us through our postoffice. There were only two copies delivered during the past six or eight weeks. I got the issue of January 3th in which I saw advertised the How to Organize envelope for which I am sending. If I receive this envelope, my intention is to try my best to lay the foundations of a Socialist local. I can clearly see there is nothing for me to loose. I have worked for as low as \$1.02 a day as coal miner. This is enough to drive any honest, thinking man desperate. I ask the capitalists to explain themselves and let me know how I can make ends meet under the increased cost of living. I am not afraid to loose my job—it is not mine anyway. There is not one laborer in the town of Inverness who owns his or her job, or in any other part of Canada. I have not received more than eight or ten copies of Cotton's and my subscription is almost expired. I know a fellow that received a lot of them in the basement of the postoffice. A Disgusted Slave, Inverness, N.S.

Premier McBride of British Columbia, has intimated that there will be further railway legislation in that province. Has he discovered something he overlooked giving away to the Canadian plutocracy?

Mr. Worker, the capitalist is on your back. He furnishes the mouth, you the hands. He consumes, you produce. That is why he runs largely to stomach and you to hands.

Socialists want a system in which the worker shall get what he produces, and the capitalist shall produce what he gets. That is a square deal.

Mug's Philosophy

A good deal of the talk about the cost of living is nonsense.

Any working man can live cheaply and save money if he likes to be economical.

I know this is a fact because I proved it. Although I never was extravagant in the consumption of beer or other luxuries, still I could see that the threepees spent on beer and tobacco would amount up if they were saved, so I made up my mind to save 'em and economise.

I commenced to retrench. I bought no more beer or tobacco. I knocked off pictur' shows an' took sippenny meals insted o' nine-penny ones. On Sundays I stopped in bed until dinner was ready an' saved the price o' me breakfast. I was careful with me washing and made a shirt that used to do one week do two. I knocked off buying papers an' borrowed 'em, insted, an' in many other ways curtailed my expenditure.

This went on for a year, an' I was delighted to find that I had £2 and some odd shillings saved up.

I reckoned up that in 20 years at this rate I could save £40, an' buy a poultry farm an' retire. I resolved to do it.

First I decided to bank my savin's, but, not knowin' much about bankin', I askt my boss which was the best bank, an' I explained the whole scheme to him.

The boss was delighted. He sed I was an ornymint to me class, an' askt me if I wud go and give my story to Judge Heydon in the Arbitration Court. I sed I wud, an' he showed me which was the best bank where you get the most interest from.

I banked me money and started on me second year, but I had bad luck at the start. The boss called me into his office and sed he was very sorry, but the Labor Party had made the cost of living go up, so he had to retrench in every way he cud, and he was forced to reduce me a shillin'a week.

I felt mad at first, because that was the amount I reckoned on savin', but I knew what the boss sed was right enough, and that was son at the University, and his daughter learning to fiddle in France, cost him a lot o' money, so I sed nothin' but made up me mind to retrench in other directions. I intend to show the Socialists that what they say about the 'cost o' livin' goin' up, an' wares goin' down is rot.

W. Mug, in International Socialist.

The reasonableness of Socialism should appeal to every worker. Should not every man get the full social value of what he produces? Should he slave to produce wealth to keep the masters in luxury, and yourself eke out only a bare living? There is nothing unreasonable in Socialism. Study it.

Montreal striking garment workers are complaining of the brutality of the police when strikers endeavor to picket the strike-bound shops. The police are the agents of capitalism, and when the city is ruled by capitalist henchmen in the municipal offices, the strikers may expect to suffer from police brutality.

Not long ago Lloyd George declared, "The stain on the national flag is just as deep, if that flag floats over slum-bred children and ill-paid, ill-fed, ill-housed men and women as if it were to droop to defeat on the field of war." That is the kind of stuff George gives forth. The British flag is stained with a hundred unjust victories on the field of war, such as forcing opium upon China. And the expense of these victories makes slum-children.

The German Imperial Chancellor says Socialists are undermining the German throne. He is right. Socialists are undermining all thrones occupied by puppets of the capitalist system. The only difference is that the situation in Germany is more apparent than in other countries. But they will all be away before the onward rush of the 12,000,000 voters who take Socialism as their ultimate object.

It is necessary, if we would understand the nature of the problem with which we have to deal, to disabuse our minds of the very prevalent idea, that the doctrines of socialism are the heated imaginings of unbalanced brains. They are nothing of the kind: they are the truthful, unexaggerated teaching of sober reason.—Benjamin Kidd.

"Zal shall do this," says the scripture. It is the earnest man and woman who accomplishes things. It is the united zeal of the nations that sweeps away ancient tyranny and brings conditions of peace and happiness to all. Where has there been such zeal as that shown by the Socialists of the world?—E. S.

The fabled Samson, shorn of his locks, the secret of his power, was the sport and—the prey of the pygmies that tormented him. The modern working class, shorn of their tools, the secret of their power, are at the mercy of a small class who exploit them of what they produce and then hold them in contempt because of their slavery.—Eugene Debs.

William Campbell—an alleged murderer of Montreal, was hanged on January 24. Judge Cross was the one who sentenced him to death. While giving sentence the judge was very nervous. What was the matter, Cross? Did it make you squirm a little to earn your seven thousand dollars a year by doing such dirty, murderous work?

The workers build factories and mills and hand them over to their masters, and the masters close the factories and mills in the dead of the winter, and the workers are denied the privilege of working to keep themselves alive. This is what the competitive system does for the worker.

United effort is what produced the family, the church and the state. It is the power behind Socialism. The union of the workers in universal co-operation is the only possible union of men. It cannot be in opinion, but it can be in labor and helpfulness.—E. S.

Too long have the workers of the world waited for some Moses to lead them out of bondage. He has not come; he never will come. I would not lead you out if I could; for if you could be led out you could be led back again.—Eugene V. Debs.

In capitalist society the working man is not in fact a man at all; as a wage-worker, he is simply merchandise; he is bought in the open market the same as hair, hides, salt, or any other form of merchandise.

Militants of Great Britain declare they will make 1914 "politically famous." And the Socialists will do the same.

The capitalists own the tools they do not use, and the workers use the tools they do not own.

WORK THIS PUZZLE. SEND NO MONEY.

MON

W N N

\$50 GOLD PRIZE

ALSO MANY OTHER PRIZES as PREMIUMS. Somebody who sends the correct solution in this Puzzle Contest telling us what TWO CITIES are represented by the above two sketches will receive a \$50 GOLD WATCH or \$50 in gold money in the certificate of entry. In the event of a tie between two or more persons for the PRIZE, a Prize identical in character and value will be given each person so tied. Everybody who answers this Puzzle correctly will receive a beautiful Post Card FREE. Closest dates Dec. 31st, 1914. Try as one, may be two. Use your Brains. Write your answer on a Post Card or letter, giving name and address plainly.

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